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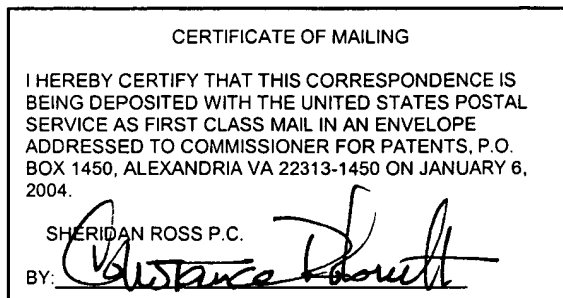
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/991,280
Applicant : Toyokawa et al.
Filed : 15 November 2001
TC/A.U. : 3753
Examiner : John A. Rivell

Confirmation No. 3701

Docket No. : 2933PE-2
Customer No. : 22442

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450



AMENDMENT

Sir,

This Response is filed in reply to the Office Action mailed 16 October 2003 (Paper No. 11). This response is filed within the three month shortened statutory period. Applicants therefore believe this response is timely filed and no fees are due. In the event any fees are due, please debit Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

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